

Message Text

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ACTION SSM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 SS-15 IO-13
INR-10 L-03 AID-05 CIAE-00 ACDA-12 NSC-05 DODE-00
PA-01 /086 W

-----120968 270111Z /61

R 261436Z AUG 78

FM USMISSION SINAI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4406

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FOR SSM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: SFM WEEKLY SUMMARY

1. THE DIRECTOR RETURNED FROM CAIRO ON AUGUST 25. AMONG THE NINE VISITORS SFM HAD DURING THE WEEK WAS DAN PATTIR, PRESS SPOKESMAN FOR PRIME MINISTER BEGIN. HE AND HIS GROUP RECEIVED A GENERAL BRIEFING ON SFM AND VISITED GIDDI EAST. PATTIR EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN (A) CONTINGENCY PLANNING AT SFM IN CASE OF NON-RENEWAL OF THE UNEF MANDATE AND (B) THE POSSIBLE USE OF SEISMIC SENSORS AT OTHER LOCATIONS FOR PEACE-KEEPING PURPOSES.

2. OPERATIONS

A) FOLLOWING THE RECENT INCREASE IN BEDOUIN ACTIVITY IN THE EARLY WARNING ZONE, UNEF IS ATTEMPTING TO EXERCISE CLOSER CONTROL OVER THEIR MOVEMENTS BY INTENSIFYING EFFORTS TO HIRE BEDOUIN TRACKERS/INTERPRETERS AND BY INCREASING PATROLS IN THE BUFFER ZONE. THE PATROLS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED NOT TO DESTROY HUTS OR, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION, SEIZE BEDOUIN PROPERTY. IN A CONVERSATION WITH THE SFM DIRECTOR, MAJ. GENERAL

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ELKATEB SAID THAT UNEF HAD SOUGHT HIS ASSISTANCE AND APPROVAL IN RECRUITING TRACKERS/INTERPRETERS. EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER SENDING SUCH BEDOUIN ON MISSIONS UNARMED. BUT HE REALIZED THAT THE IDF MIGHT HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT PERMITTING "AUTHORIZED" ARMED BEDOUIN IN THE BZ. HUNT EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN THAT BEDOUIN IN EW AREA SHOULD BE CONTROLLED AND GENERAL ELKATEB ASSURED HIM

THAT GOE WOULD BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE.

IN AN EARLIER CONVERSATION WITH THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, THE C.O. OF GHANBATT SAID THE TRACKERS/INTERPRETERS WOULD ACCOMPANY UNEF PATROLS. HE DID NOT ENVISAGE THEM OPERATING ALONE.

WE ARE SATISFIED THAT UNEF IS DOING WHAT IT CAN TO CONTROL BEDOUIN WITHOUT GETTING INVOLVED IN HOSTILITIES. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN THAT GHANBATT AND UNEF HQ ARE THINKING ALONG THE SAME LINES AS TO HOW BEDOUIN TRACKERS/INTERPRETERS WILL BE UTILIZED.

IN THE MEANTIME WE ARE CAUTIONING SFM PERSONNEL TO AVOID STRAYING FROM THE MAIN ROADS IN THE EARLY WARNING ZONE.

B) THE TELEPHONE LINE BETWEEN THE MOW AND EMBASSY CAIRO HAS BEEN RESTORED TO OPERATION. SFM TECHNICIANS ARE NOW IN CAIRO RESTORING THE SFM-CAIRO TELEPHONE CAPABILITY TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE IN VIEW OF THE INTERFERENCE PROBLEM.

C) DON HAMILTON REPORTS THE MAP/COMPASS TRAINING HE RECEIVED WAS VALUABLE. WE WILL PROVIDE A MORE DETAILED EVALUATION OF THE TRAINING AFTER HAMILTON AND SINDELAR HAVE SETTLED INTO THEIR ASSIGNMENTS.

3. ADMINISTRATION
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A) LEASE HAS BEEN SIGNED ON PROPERTY IN JERUSALEM. PAINTING, CLEANING AND SOME MINOR CARPENTRY WORK IS BEING PERFORMED ON PROPERTY THIS WEEK.

B) SANDRA WILLIAMS AND DON HAMILTON ARRIVED THIS WEEK GREATLY EASING STAFFING PROBLEMS IN C&R AND OPERATIONS SECTIONS.

C) TENNIS BACKBOARD PROJECT HAS BEEN COMPLETED, AND THE BOARD IS RECEIVING AN ENTHUSIASTIC WORK-OUT BY LOCAL TENNIS BUFFS.
HUNT

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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To: STATE
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